



Billing Code 3410-05

DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

Farm Service Agency

Submission for OMB Review; Comment Request

January 15, 2016

The Department of Agriculture has submitted the following information collection requirement(s) to OMB for review and clearance under the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, Public Law 104-13. Comments are required regarding (1) whether the collection of information is necessary for the proper performance of the functions of the agency, including whether the information will have practical utility; (2) the accuracy of the agency's estimate of burden including the validity of the methodology and assumptions used; (3) ways to enhance the quality, utility and clarity of the information to be collected; and (4) ways to minimize the burden of the collection of information on those who are to respond, including through the use of appropriate automated, electronic, mechanical, or other technological collection techniques or other forms of information technology.

Comments regarding this information collection received by [INSERT DATE 30 DAYS AFTER DATE OF PUBLICATION IN THE FEDERAL REGISTER] will be considered.

Written comments should be addressed to: Desk Officer for Agriculture, Office of Information and Regulatory Affairs, Office of Management and Budget (OMB), New Executive Office Building, 725 – 17th Street, N.W., Washington, D.C. 20502. Commenters are encouraged to submit their comments to OMB via email to: OIRA_Submission@OMB.EOP.GOV or fax (202) 395-5806 and to Departmental Clearance Office, USDA, OCIO, Mail Stop 7602, Washington, D.C. 20250-7602. Copies of the submission(s) may be obtained by calling (202) 720-8958.

An agency may not conduct or sponsor a collection of information unless the collection of information displays a currently valid OMB control number and the agency informs potential persons who are to respond to the collection of information that such persons are not required to respond to the collection of information unless it displays a currently valid OMB control number.

Farm Service Agency

Title: 7 CFR 764, Direct Loan Making

OMB Control Number: 0560-0237

Summary of Collection: The Farm Loan Program (FLP) provides loans to family farmers to purchase real estate and equipment and finance agricultural production. The regulation covered by this collection describes the policies and procedures the agency uses to provide supervised credit to FLP applicants requesting direct loan assistance in accordance with the provisions of the Consolidated Farm and Rural Development Act (7 U.S.C. 1921) (Pub. L. 87-128), as amended. Authority to establish the regulatory requirements contained in 7 CFR 764, is provided under 5 U.S.C. 301, which provides that “The Head of an Executive department or military department may prescribe regulations for the government of his department, the distribution and performance of its business...” The Secretary delegated authority to administer the provisions of the Act applicable to the Farm Loan Program (FLP) to the Under Secretary for Farm and Foreign Agricultural Service in section 2.16 of 7 CFR part 2. FLP provides loans to family farmers to purchase real estate equipment and finance agricultural production. .

Need and Use of the Information: Information is submitted by the applicants to the local agency office serving the county in which their business is headquartered. The information is necessary to thoroughly evaluate the applicant’s request for a direct loan and is used by agency officials to:

- (1) Ensure that cash flow projections used in determining loan repayment are based on the actual production history of the operation,
- (2) Ensure that a loan is adequately secured.
- (3) Ensure the applicant meets the statutorily established program eligibility requirements, and
- (4) Obtain assignment on income or sales proceeds, when appropriate, to ensure timely repayment of the

loans. Since the agency is mandated to provide supervised credit, failure to collect the information, or collecting it less frequently, could result in the failure of the farm operation or loss of agency security property.

Description of Respondents: Business or other for-profit; Farms

Number of Respondents: 183,433

Frequency of Responses: Reporting: On occasion; Annually

Total Burden Hours: 345,484

Ruth Brown,
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